



General Assembly

January Session, 2017

**Committee Bill No. 6335**

LCO No. 4093



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:  
(ENV)

***AN ACT PROHIBITING THE SALE AND TRADE OF IVORY AND  
RHINOCEROS HORN IN CONNECTICUT.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2018*) (a) For the purposes of this  
2       section:

3       (1) "Bona fide educational or scientific institution" means an  
4       institution that establishes through documentation either of the  
5       following: (A) An educational or scientific tax exemption, from the  
6       federal Internal Revenue Service or such institution's national or state  
7       tax authority; or (B) accreditation as an educational or scientific  
8       institution, from a qualified national or state authority for the  
9       institution's location;

10       (2) "Ivory" means a tooth or tusk from a species of elephant,  
11       hippopotamus, mammoth, walrus, whale, or narwhal, or a piece  
12       thereof, including any product that contains or that is advertised as  
13       containing ivory;

14       (3) "Rhinoceros horn" means the horn or a piece or derivative

15 thereof, such as powder, of a species of rhinoceros, including any  
16 product containing or advertised as containing rhinoceros horn;

17 (4) "Sale" or "sell" means selling, trading, bartering for monetary or  
18 nonmonetary consideration, or giving away in conjunction with a  
19 commercial transaction; and

20 (5) "Total value" means either the fair market value or the actual  
21 price paid for ivory or rhinoceros horn, whichever is greater.

22 (b) Except as provided in subsections (c) and (d) of this section, no  
23 person shall purchase, sell, offer for sale or possess with the intent to  
24 sell any ivory or rhinoceros horn.

25 (c) The prohibitions in subsection (b) of this section shall not apply  
26 to any of the following:

27 (1) Any employee or agent of the federal or state government  
28 undertaking a law enforcement activity pursuant to federal or state  
29 law or a mandatory duty required by federal law;

30 (2) Any activity expressly authorized by federal law;

31 (3) Ivory that is part of an antique provided:

32 (A) Such ivory was removed from the wild prior to February 26,  
33 1976, if such ivory is elephant ivory;

34 (B) Such ivory is a fixed component of a larger manufactured item  
35 and is not, in its current form, the primary source of the total value for  
36 such item;

37 (C) The total volume of the ivory component is less than twenty per  
38 cent;

39 (D) The manufactured item is not made wholly or primarily of  
40 ivory;

41 (E) The ivory is not raw, unaltered or minimally changed by  
42 carving; and

43 (F) The owner or seller provides historical documentation or a  
44 sworn affidavit executed by an expert demonstrating provenance that  
45 verifies that the antique is not less than one hundred years old;

46 (4) The noncommercial transfer of ownership of ivory or rhinoceros  
47 horn to a legal beneficiary of an estate, trust or other inheritance; or

48 (5) The purchase, sale, offer for sale, or possession with intent to sell  
49 of an ivory or rhinoceros horn article by a bona fide educational or  
50 scientific institution or a museum.

51 (d) The prohibitions in subsection (b) of this section shall not apply  
52 to ivory that is part of a musical instrument that was made prior to  
53 February 26, 1976.

54 (e) It shall be presumptive evidence of possession with intent to sell  
55 ivory or rhinoceros horn if the ivory or rhinoceros horn is possessed in  
56 a retail or wholesale outlet commonly used for the buying or selling of  
57 similar items. Such presumption shall not preclude a finding of intent  
58 to sell based on any other evidence that may serve to independently  
59 establish such intent.

60 (f) Any person who violates any provision of this section or any  
61 rule, regulation, or order adopted pursuant to this section shall be  
62 guilty of a class B misdemeanor provided: (1) For the first offense,  
63 such person shall be fined not less than three thousand dollars or an  
64 amount equal to two times the total value of the article involved,  
65 whichever is greater, or imprisoned for not more than six months, or  
66 both; and (2) for a second or any subsequent violation, such person  
67 shall be fined not less than six thousand dollars or an amount equal to  
68 three times the total value of the article involved, whichever is greater,  
69 or imprisoned not more than one year, or both.

70 (g) Upon conviction or other entry of judgment for a violation of

71 this section, any seized ivory or rhinoceros horn shall be forfeited and,  
72 upon forfeiture, either be maintained by the Department of Energy and  
73 Environmental Protection for educational or training purposes,  
74 donated by the department to a bona fide educational or scientific  
75 institution or destroyed.

76 (h) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, in  
77 consultation with the Attorney General, may adopt regulations, in  
78 accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the  
79 provisions of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
---	--	--

Section 1	July 1, 2018	New section
-----------	--------------	-------------

***Statement of Purpose:***

To prohibit the sale and trade of ivory and rhinoceros horn in the state.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*

Co-Sponsors: REP. URBAN, 43rd Dist.; REP. ELLIOTT, 88th Dist.

H.B. 6335